

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                               |   |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Applicant: Eiki MATSUO        | ) | Re: Preliminary Amendment       |
|                               | ) |                                 |
| Serial No.: Not yet assigned  | ) |                                 |
| Filed: concurrently herewith  | ) |                                 |
|                               | ) |                                 |
| Divisional of USSN 10/031,026 | ) |                                 |
| filed on January 14, 2002     | ) | Our Ref: B-4460PCTDIV3 621784-1 |
|                               | ) |                                 |
| For: "IMAGING OPTICAL SYSTEM" | ) | Date: April 16, 2004            |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-identified application is a divisional of pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/031,026 filed on January 14, 2002, which is the U.S. National Stage of PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/JP00/04641 (filed on July 12, 2000). This paper is being filed as a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified Application being filed concurrently herewith. Please amend the above-identified application as described below. **All amendments and remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 8 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.